



# CALVIN COOLIDGE

MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## President Calvin Coolidge Museum & Education Center to Hold Grand Opening August 7

*Plymouth Notch, VT (July 28, 2010)* -- Governor Jim Douglas will join the Board of Trustees of the Calvin Coolidge Memorial Foundation (CCMF) and other dignitaries for the grand opening of the foundation's new Museum and Education Center on August, 7, 2010. The inauguration of the center will mark a great leap forward for the CCMF, allowing it to provide scholars, students, tourists and the local community year-round educational programming about one of Vermont's most famous native sons, in a building with ample space for classes, meetings, exhibitions and other events or programs.

"This is the culmination of a 50-year dream for this foundation," said Robert P. Kirby, President of the CCMF Board of Trustees. "Our mission revolves around education and scholarship about the accomplishments and values that made President Coolidge great, and this new Museum and Education Center will give people so much more access to our resources, and allow us to significantly expand our offerings."

In addition to office space for the CCMF's staff, the new center will include:

- **Exhibition space** for the foundation's many artifacts. This space will also allow the foundation staff to assemble traveling exhibitions that will help with its efforts to create a greater awareness of President Coolidge's accomplishments and values beyond a local audience.
- **Archival and collections storage** areas, which are a critical component of any historical organization, and the new center will provide space for the CCMF's considerable collection, as well as provide it room to grow.
- **Library and research facilities**, including a greater emphasis on digitized content for more simplified research.
- **Public programs space**, which will allow the foundation to hold scholarly symposia, meetings, receptions, and other events for large groups.

"This new Museum and Education Center is a game-changer for us," said CCMF Executive Director Joan Randall. "It enables us to share the accomplishments of this extraordinary Vermonter with Presidential scholars, academic researchers, writers, historians and many others



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in a way that we never could have done before.”

Kirby noted that U.S. Presidents from Hoover up to the present day have taxpayer-funded libraries in their names, while the Coolidge Foundation has funded the current effort through large amounts of private fundraising. “I think it’s a great testament to

President Coolidge’s unwavering dedication to the greatness of this nation that so many people are willing to commit their personal treasure to the support of this Museum and Education Center,” he said. “The recognition that President Coolidge’s values and accomplishments are relevant today is becoming more and more widespread, and we hope to continue expanding our contribution to the national conversation about the country’s past and future.”

**In addition to the inauguration ceremony, the day’s events will include wagon rides, a chicken barbecue, sheep-shearing, children’s activities, and traditional Vermont craft demonstrations. The events begin at 10 a.m. and end at 4 p.m.**

### **About Calvin Coolidge Memorial Foundation:**

The Mission of Calvin Coolidge Memorial Foundation is “*to open the eyes of the world to Calvin Coolidge.*” Its National Advisory Board increases the public awareness and support for the Foundation’s initiatives “*to become the gateway to all things Coolidge.*” Our not-for-profit Foundation was established in 1960 in part to redress the fact that there is no federally-funded presidential library for Calvin Coolidge, our 30<sup>th</sup> U.S. President. The Foundation offices are located in Plymouth Notch, Vermont, an historic hamlet on the U.S. Department of Interior’s registry of National Historic Landmarks, which was Calvin Coolidge’s birthplace. You can visit Calvin Coolidge Memorial Foundation on the Internet at <http://www.calvin-coolidge.org>